

07 APR 2008



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

Raymond M. Galasso  
Galasso & Associates, LP  
P.O. Box 26503  
Austin, TX 78755-0503

In re Application of  
STOCKTON, et al.  
U.S. Application No.: 10/581,987  
PCT No.: PCT/US04/41597  
Int. Filing Date: 13 December 2004  
Priority Date: 12 December 2003  
Attorney Docket No.: 1709.030002  
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM CONFIGURED FOR  
FACILITATING MANAGEMENT OF INTER-  
NATIONAL TRADE RECEIVABLES  
TRANSACTIONS

DECISION ON PETITIONS  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)  
AND 37 CFR 1.181

This decision is in response to applicant's renewed petition to accept the present national stage application without the signature of joint inventor Wil Ballard filed 26 March 2008 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

**BACKGROUND**

On 14 March 2008, applicant was mailed a decision indicating that a decision on applicant's renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) was being held in abeyance pending the filing of a petition under 37 CFR 1.181 to perfect the timeliness of the renewed petition. Applicant was afforded two months to file any request for reconsideration.

On 26 March 2008, applicant filed the present papers which include a statement as to the true and complete nature of the papers filed 28 February 2008 which is being considered under 37 CFR 1.181 and a renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47.

**DISCUSSION**

**I. Petition Under 37 CFR 1.181**

Applicant has provided a legible copy of the receipt postcard which shows a USPTO date stamp, "IAP6 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 AUG 2007" and clearly identifies:

- 1) Transmittal Letter
- 2) Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.47(2)
- 3) Original executed Declaration and Power of Attorney
- 4) Copy of Decision on Petition mailed July 2, 2007.

**5) Confirmation Postcard.**

The postcard has not been annotated in any way to indicate that the above items were not received. Applicant has presently provided a signed statement from counsel attesting to the true and complete nature of the copy filed 28 February 2008. As such, it is proper to grant the petition under 37 CFR 1.181 and accept the copy of the papers filed 28 February 2008 as having been filed 31 August 2007. The renewed petition is thus a timely response to the decision mailed 02 July 2007.

**II. Renewed Petition Under 37 CFR 1.47(a)**

As detailed in the decision mailed 23 April 2007, a petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) must be accompanied by (1) the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(g), (2) factual proof that the missing joint investor refuses to execute the application or cannot be reached after diligent effort, (3) a statement of the last known address of the missing inventor, and (4) an oath or declaration by each 37 CFR 1.47(a) applicant on his or her own behalf and on behalf of the non-signing joint inventor. Applicant previously satisfied items (1)-(3).

Regarding item (4), applicant has presently provided a compliant declaration satisfying the remaining item and it is proper to grant applicant's renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a).

**CONCLUSION**

For the reasons above, applicant's petition under 37 CFR 1.181 and renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) are **GRANTED**.

The application has an international filing date of 13 December 2004 under 35 U.S.C. 363, and will be given a date of **31 August 2007** under 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4).

As provided in 37 CFR 1.47(c), a notice of the filing of this application will be forwarded to the non-signing inventor at his last known address of record. A notice of the filing of the application under 37 CFR 1.47(a) will be published in the Official Gazette.

This application is being returned to the DO/EO/US for processing in accordance with this decision.



Derek A. Putonen  
Attorney Advisor  
Office of PCT Legal Administration  
Tel: (571) 272-3294  
Fax: (571) 273-0459



07 APR 2008

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

Mr. Wil Ballard  
12804 Noyes Lane  
Austin, TX 78732

In re Application of  
MEIJER  
U.S. Application No.: 11/77,007  
PCT No.: PCT/NL06/50011  
Int. Filing Date: 16 January 2006  
Priority Date: 14 January 2005  
Attorney's Docket No.: 069818-8400  
For: PROTECTIVE COMPOSITION

Dear Mr. Ballard:

You are named as an inventor in the above identified United States patent application, filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.47(a) and 35 U.S.C. 116. Should a patent be granted, you will be designated as an inventor. As a named inventor, you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or to make your position of record in the application. Alternately, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent agent or attorney presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join in the application, the law firm of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining in the application would entail the filing of the appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

Derek A. Putonen  
Attorney Advisor  
Office of PCT Legal Administration  
Tel: (571) 272-3294  
Fax: (571) 273-0459

Foley & Lardner, LLP  
Suite 500  
3000 K Street  
Washington, DC 20007